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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/042,253	01/11/2002	Shin Muto	03500.016100.	6251
5514	7590	08/17/2006		EXAMINER
				SERRAO, RANODHI N
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2141	

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/042,253	MUTO, SHIN	
	Examiner Ranodhi Serrao	Art Unit 2141	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5,7-20,22-31,33-43,46 and 47 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5, 7-20, 22-31, 33-43, 46, and 47 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 28 June 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 7-20, 22-31, 33-43, 46, and 47 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. The applicant argued in substance the newly added limitations of the pending claims. However, the new grounds teach these and the added features. See rejections below.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Fowler et al. (6,714,977).

6. As per claim 1, Fowler et al. teaches a data transfer processing apparatus which controls data transfer in a device, comprising: a status obtaining unit that obtains status information about a status of said device (col. 6, lines 27-44); a message obtaining unit that obtains a message according to the status information obtained by said status obtaining unit (col. 7, lines 7-25); a transmission data generation unit that generates transmission data according to the message obtained by said message obtaining unit and according to destination information indicating a destination of the transmission data (col. 17, lines 16-22); an electronic mail transmission unit that transmits as electronic mail the transmission data generated by said transmission data generation unit (col. 7, lines 7-25); a data generation unit that generates data that causes a web browser of an external apparatus to display a setting screen (col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8), the setting screen being for setting said destination information which indicates the destination of the transmission data to be transmitted by said electronic mail transmission unit (col. 20, lines 31-44); a data transmission unit that transmits the data generated by said data generation unit to the external apparatus via a network (col. 7, lines 7-25); and a destination information reception unit that receives the destination information set with the setting screen from the external apparatus via the network (col. 18, line 67-col. 19, line 8).

7. As per claim 5, Fowler et al. teaches a data transfer processing apparatus which controls data transfer in a device, comprising: an information holding unit that holds setting information set for transmission of an electronic mail containing a message depending on a status of the device (col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8); a data generation

unit that generates data that causes a web browser of an external apparatus to display a setting screen (col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8), the setting screen being for setting the setting information set for the transmission of the electronic mail by said data transfer processing apparatus (col. 20, lines 31-44); a data transmission unit that transmits the data generated by said data generation unit to the external apparatus via a network (col. 7, lines 7-25); and a setting information reception unit that receives the setting information set with the setting screen from the external apparatus via the network (col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
9. Claims 2-4, 7-11, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowler et al. as applied to claims 1 and 5 above, and further in view of Motoyama et al. (6,581,092).
10. As per claim 2, Fowler et al. teaches the mentioned limitations of claim 1 above but fails to teach a data transfer process apparatus, further comprising a destination information storage unit that stores said destination information received by said destination information reception unit. However, Motoyama et al. teaches a data transfer process apparatus, further comprising a destination information storage unit that stores said destination information received by said destination information reception unit (see Motoyama et al., col. 13, lines 3-48). It would have been obvious to

one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Fowler et al. to a data transfer process apparatus, further comprising a destination information storage unit that stores said destination information received by said destination information reception unit in order to process and forward the appropriate information from the network resource to the end user (see Motoyama et al., col. 2, lines 1-24).

11. As per claims 3, 4, 7-11, and 19, the above-mentioned motivation of claim 2 applies fully in order to combine Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al.

12. As per claim 3, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said electronic mail transmission unit transmits the electronic mail to a client apparatus through a mail server apparatus (see Motoyama et al., col. 13, lines 3-48).

13. As per claim 4, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein: said data transfer processing apparatus is a network board connected to a printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 5, lines 25-52); and said message obtaining unit obtains the message from the printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 9, lines 44-52).

14. As per claim 7, Motoyama et al. and Fowler et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said setting information includes information indicating a condition of transmitting said electronic mail (see Motoyama et al., col. 16, line 46-col. 17, line 8).

15. As per claim 8, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said setting information includes information indicating a

reply destination of said electronic mail (see Motoyama et al., col. 11, line 59-col. 12, line 13).

16. As per claim 9, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said setting screen is for setting a pairing of a reply address of said electronic mail and a condition of transmitting said electronic mail (see Motoyama et al., col. 16, lines 5-33 and col. 18, lines 43-59).

17. As per claim 10, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said message relates to a supplement of expendables used in the device, an exchange of expendables used in the device, or a process status of the device (see Motoyama et al., col. 8, lines 14-31).

18. As per claim 11, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said data transfer process apparatus is a network board connected to a printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 5, lines 25-52).

19. As per claim 19, Fowler et al. and Motoyama et al. teach the device, wherein said device is a printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 5, lines 25-52).

20. Claims 12-15 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowler et al. and Kikinis (2004/0267892).

21. As per claim 12, Fowler et al. teaches a data transfer processing apparatus which controls data transfer in a device, comprising: a status obtaining unit that obtains status information about each of a plurality statuses of said device (see Fowler et al., col. 6, lines 27-44); a message obtaining unit that obtains a message according to the

status information obtained by said status obtaining unit (see Fowler et al., col. 7, lines 7-25); the plurality of reply destinations being different from each other in correspondence to the respective plurality of statuses of said device (see Fowler et al., col. 10, lines 50-54); a transmission data generation unit that generates transmission data according to the message obtained by said message obtaining unit, according to destination information indicating a destination of the electronic mail, and according to the reply destination information, wherein the generated transmission data includes the destination information and the reply destination information (see Fowler et al., col. 17, lines 16-22); and an electronic mail transmission unit that transmits as electronic mail the transmission data generated by said transmission data generation unit (see Fowler et al., col. 7, lines 7-25). But fails to teach a registration unit that registers reply destination information indicating each of a plurality of reply destinations of an electronic mail different from a source of the electronic mail. However, Kikinis teaches a registration unit that registers reply destination information indicating each of a plurality of reply destinations of an electronic mail different from a source of the electronic mail (see Kikinis ¶ 18-19). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Fowler et al. to a registration unit that registers reply destination information indicating each of a plurality of reply destinations of an electronic mail different from a source of the electronic mail in order to allow one agent to represent several different entities without the danger of inserting wrong or confusing data in e-mail replies (see Kikinis, ¶ 18).

22. As per claim 13, Fowler et al. and Kikinis teach a data transfer processing apparatus, further comprising: a data generation unit that generates data that causes a web browser of an external apparatus to display a setting screen, the setting screen being for setting the destination information (see Fowler et al., col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8); a data transmission unit that transmits the data generated by said data generation unit to the external apparatus via a network (see Fowler et al., col. 7, lines 7-25); a reception unit that receives the destination information and the reply destination information set with the setting screen from the external apparatus via the network, wherein said registration unit registers the reply destination information received by said reception unit (see Fowler et al., col. 18, line 63-col. 19, line 8).

23. Claims 14, 15, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowler et al., Kikinis, and Motoyama et al.

24. As per claim 14, Fowler et al. and Kikinis teach the mentioned limitations of claim 12 above but fail to teach a data transfer processing apparatus, further comprising a storage unit that stores the reply destination information registered by said registration unit. However, Motoyama et al. teaches a data transfer processing apparatus, further comprising a storage unit that stores the reply destination information registered by said registration unit (see Motoyama et al., col. 13, lines 3-48). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Fowler et al. and Kikinis to a data transfer processing apparatus, further comprising a storage unit that stores the reply destination information registered by said registration unit in order to in

order to process and forward the appropriate information from the network resource to the end user (see Motoyama et al., col. 2, lines 1-24).

25. As per claims 15 and 30, the above-mentioned motivation of claim 14 applies fully in order to combine Fowler et al., Kikinis, and Motoyama et al.

26. As per claim 15, Motoyama et al., Fowler et al., and Kikinis teach a data transfer processing apparatus, wherein said data transfer processing apparatus is a network board connected to a printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 5, lines 25-52).

27. As per claim 30, Motoyama et al., Fowler et al., and Kikinis teach a device, wherein said device is a printer (see Motoyama et al., col. 5, lines 25-52).

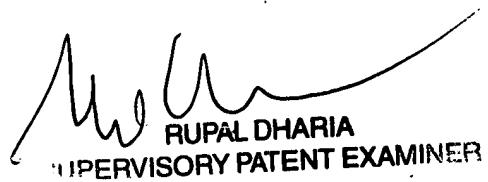
28. Claims 16-18, 20, 22-29, 31, 33-43, 46, and 47 have similar limitations as to claims 1-5, 7-15, 19, and 30, therefore, they are being rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ranodhi Serrao whose telephone number is (571) 272-7967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER